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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY China
SUBJECT Gasoline Storage Depot, Tientsin

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REFERENCES

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PLACE ACQUIRED

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1. [] a gasoline storage depot was located on Ta Ma (1129/7456) Road, Ta Wang Chuang (1129/3769/5445), 4 District, Tientsin. The depot compound was surrounded by a grey reinforced-concrete wall 12 feet high which was topped with barbed wire. One of the two gates in the wall, situated on the inland side of the compound, was wide enough to allow two trucks to pass abreast. The second gate, which faced the water, was wide enough to allow the passage of four trucks abreast.
2. The depot contained eight storage tanks each of which contained between 75,000 to 100,000 gallons of gasoline or kerosene. The depot normally stored approximately 100,000 gallons of gasoline and 150,000 gallons of kerosene.
3. The tanks were constructed of one-inch steel plate and were set on concrete bases which reached about four or five inches above ground level. Each tank was painted silver, had a steel ladder on one side and a glass-capped filling aperture on the top. The tanks were partially filled with water, upon which the gasoline or kerosene floated.
4. A wharf at the rear of the depot was capable of berthing two ships of approximately 1,500 tons each. From the wharf to the storage tanks were 12-inch tar smeared pipelines which ran above ground-level for approximately 230 feet and which had tap control devices at points along their length.
5. Fire control apparatus consisted of two hydrants outside the depot and between 50 and 60 fire extinguishers at various points within the compound. The fire extinguishers were brass, painted red, and operated when inverted.
6. Motor vehicles attached to the depot consisted of the following:
 - a. One 900 gallon gasoline truck of U.S. manufacture.

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- b. Two gasoline trucks of 750-gallon capacity, of which one was of Japanese manufacture and the other of U.S. manufacture.
- c. Six cargo trucks, of which two were of Japanese manufacture and four of U.S. manufacture.
- d. One medium-sized bus.

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